

Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
ARCHIVES – FINDING AID

Collection Title: State Microscopical Society of Illinois Records

Creator:

Dates: 1878-1980

Language: English

Extent: 0.3 Linear Feet

Level of Description: Folder Level

Repository: Museum Collections and Archives, Chicago Academy of Sciences /Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago, Illinois.

Access Conditions: Open for research.

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Citation: Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item], [folder], [box], The State Microscopical Society of Illinois Records, Institutional Records, Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

Provenance: Created through Chicago Academy of Sciences official activities.

Processor and Date: Amber King and Dawn Roberts, 2010. Updated by Olivia Ottinger, 2017.

Processing Note: Materials have been reorganized by subject and date.

Biographical Sketch: The State Microscopical Society of Illinois (SMSI), originally the Chicago Microscopical Club, was founded in Chicago in 1868. Many of the members that founded the society were members and founders of the Chicago Academy of Sciences (CAS), and the society was originally meant to be a division of CAS. However, the founders felt the SMSI would function better as a separate entity, so it remained independent and was later renamed from the Chicago Microscopical Club to the

State Microscopical Society of Illinois. The organization is credited with being one of the first scientific organizations formed in the United States.

Scope and Content: The materials found within this collection are part of the institutional records of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Content includes the bylaws and constitution of the State Microscopical Society of Illinois (SMSI); letters between members of SMSI and members of the Chicago Academy of Sciences (CAS); letters and documents about the annual soiree held by SMSI and CAS; letters about membership dues that were owed to CAS from SMSI; letters and bills about general costs due to CAS from SMSI; SMSI member lists; announcements, pamphlets, postcards, and blank membership cards sent out from SMSI; SMSI Bulletins; and Diatom notes published by SMSI.

Related Resources: There are meeting announcements, meeting minutes, and meeting program information in the Leon F. Urbain manuscript collection.

Container List:

Box 1: (Affiliated Societies, Box 6)

Series 1: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Bylaws/Constitution (1885-1916)

Series 2: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Clippings (1919)

Series 3: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – Urbain, Leon F. (1960-1961)

Series 4: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – General (1896-1964)

Series 5: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – Annual Soiree (1911-1923, undated)

Series 6: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – Financial – Annual Academy Dues (1942-1950)

Series 7: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – Financial – Bills (1941-1953)

Series 8: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Correspondence – Library Holdings at Academy (1915-1916)

Series 9: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Financial – Bills (1944-1946)

Series 10: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Lists – Member/Officers (1941-1949)

Series 11: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Notes (Undated)

Series 12: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Printed Materials – General (1883-1976, undated)

Series 13: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Printed Materials – Annual Soiree (1911-1950)

Series 14: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Publications – “Bulletin of the Microscopical Society of Illinois” (1919-1922)

Series 15: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Publications – “Bulletin of the Microscopical Society of Illinois” (1923-1960)

Series 16: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Publications – “Diatom Notes” No. 1-9 (1878-1945)

Series 17: State Microscopical Society of Illinois – Writings (undated)

Box 2: (Financial, Box 8)

Series 1: Funding – Donations – Organizations – State Microscopical Society of Illinois (1960)

Box 3: (Frank Baker, Box 1)

Series 1: Correspondence – State Microscopical Society of Illinois (1895-1914)

Box 4: (William Beecher, Box 6)

Series 1: Correspondence – Urbain, Leon F. (State Microscopical Society of Illinois) (1959-1980)